



BAT MAN

395
75¢
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COMICS
CODE
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**GREEN
LANTERN.
#200 is a
VERY
special
issue!**





CARY GRANT
HE IS NOT.

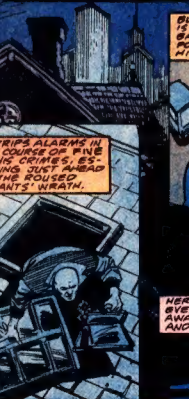
BUT AN
AUDACIOUS
CAT BURGLAR
HE IS.



THE BLOCK CONSISTS
OF NINE OF GOTHAM'S
MOST EXCLUSIVE AND
EXPENSIVE TOWN-
HOUSES.



HE VISITS SEVEN OF
THEM, FROM ABOVE.



BUT ONLY WHEN HIS SATCHEL
IS FILLED WITH BRIGHT
BAUBLES DOES HE TAKE
POSITION ON THE BLOCK'S
HIGHEST ROOF.



HE TRIPS ALARMS IN
THE COURSE OF FIVE
OF HIS CRIMES, ES-
CAPING JUST AHEAD
OF THE ROUSED
TENANTS' WRATH.



HERE HE CHECKS
EVERY CHAMBER,
AWAITING POLICE
AND PRESS...

...AND BRINGING HIS
SELF-AUTHORED
SCREENPLAY TO LIFE.



ONCE THE SUPPORTING PLAYERS HAVE GATHERED AND THE SCENE HAS BEEN SET, HE BEGINS TAKING PERIODIC AND ONLY HALFHEARTED POTSHOTS, SHOUTING BAD LINES FROM OLD MOVIES.

IT IS, AFTER ALL, TIME FOR THE CLIMAX.

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE, COPPERS!

I STEAL--I STEAL!!

GET DOWN, LADY!

BRAM
BRAM

THE FILM FREAK

DOUG MOENCH - WRITER
TOM MANDRANCE - ARTIST
WORKMAN & COSTANZA - LETTERERS
ADRIENNE ROY - COLORIST
LEN WEIN - EDITOR

BAT-ANGLED LIGHT BEAMS FROM THE
ROOF OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

GORDON?

BULLOCK--?

GUESS
AGAIN.

CATWOMAN--SELINA!

THEN YOU ACTIVATED THE
BAT-SIGNAL! BUT WHAT
ARE YOU--

AFTER OUR NIGHT
ON THE TOWN, BATMAN,
I FIGURED IT WAS TIME
FOR A DISCUSSION
ABOUT YOU AND ME
AND NOCTURNA.

DO ME A FAVOR,
SELINA--LET'S
JUST LEAVE NOCTURNA
OUT OF THE PICTURE
FOR NOW.

ALL RIGHT.

THERE'S A CROWD ANYWAY--
AND EVEN IF THIS ROOF'S
NOT MADE OF HOT TIN, I
AM FEELING PLEASANTLY
HAPPY...

HEY, COMMISS-- WE
JUST GOT FIVE NINE-
ONE-ONES-- NOT TO
MENTION OUR SQUAD
CARS BURNIN' UP THE
RADIO!

THERE'S SOME CRAZY
CAT BURGLAR TRAPPED
UP ON A GRAMERCY
SQUARE TOWNHOUSE
ROOF!

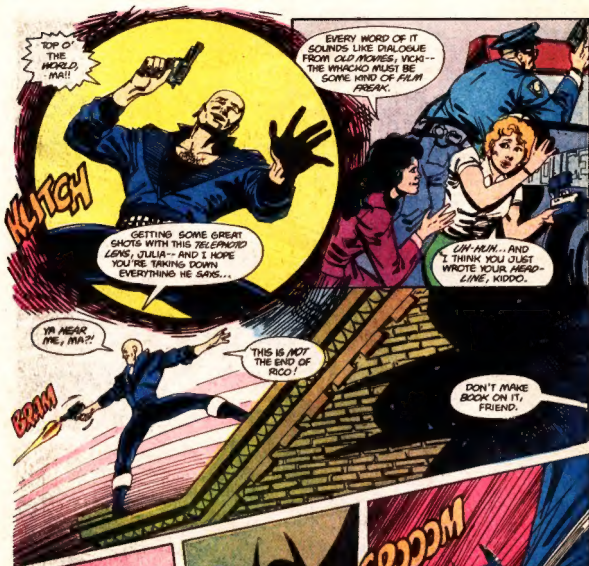
BWAK

ALL RIGHT, BULLOCK--
YOU GET ON OVER TO
THE SCENE.

I'LL GO UP
TO THE ROOF
AND--



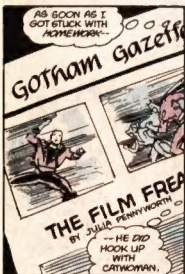
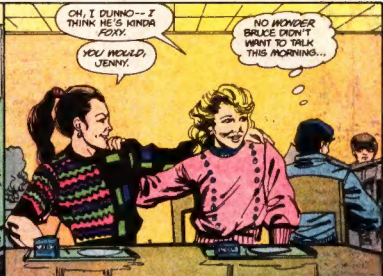
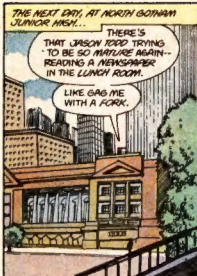








CONTINUED ON OPPOSITE PAGE FOLLOWING.



SST. BULLOCK--

'EVENIN',
MRS. MARSH.
I, UH, JUST
WANTED TO SAY
MY COURTESIES
DURN 'THE
PERIOD O'
MOURNIN'.

BUT FLOWERS--
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE

IT'S TRADITIONAL AMONG
COPS, MRS. MARSH-- AND
MAYBE YOUR HUSBAND
WAS A SECURITY GUARD
AND NOT STRICTLY A COP,
BUT HE STILL DIED IN
THE LINE O' DUTY,
RIGHT?

C-COME
IN COFFEE.?

STRONG
AN' BLACK,
IF YA DON'T
MIND.

I. I'LL
GO GET IT,
SERGEANT

ON SECOND THOUGHT, MRS.
MARSH, WHY DON'T WE JUST
TALK, HUH?

MY NAME'S
HARVEY.

CAN I...
CALL YOU...
JILLIAN?

P-PLEASE
DO, HARVEY

PLEASE
DO

UH, TELL ME, JILLIAN, YOU, UH...
YOU LIKE MOVIES?

Y-YES...

UH... OLD
MOVIES OR...
NEW MOVIES?

THEN, UH... WOULD YOU MAYBE,
UH, LIKE TO GO SIT IN THE PARLOR...
WITH ME?

BUT SOMETIME,
YES... SOMETIME
SOON

BOTH, BUT I THINK I
MUCH PREFER THE OLD ONES.

N-NOT
TONIGHT,
HARVEY...

AND HARVEY BULLOCK FEELS
SUDDENLY TALLER THAN KING
KONG.

POLICE
HQ

WHAT'S UP, GORDON?

A BREAK IN THIS FILM
FREAK CASE, BATMAN-- SOME
GIRL SAYS SHE USED TO BE HIS
GIRLFRIEND-- CALLED JULIA
PENNYWORTH AFTER SHE
RECOGNIZED THE PHOTOS
IN THE GAZETTE.

JULIA OFFERED
TO BRING HER
OVER HERE AS LONG AS SHE AND
VICKI WILE CAN
SIT IN ON IT.

I AGREED-- AND THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT WANT TO BE IN
ON IT TOO

THANKS,
GORDON

BY THE
WAY... ROBIN
GOT THE
FLU?

WHATT A WONDERFUL
NIGHT...

WHAT
THE...?

YEAH? WHAT
IF I SAY IT SINGS?

RELAX,
BULLOCK,
IT'S ONLY
ME-- YOUR
NEW
PARTNER.

SHEESH,
KID, DON'T
EVER DO
THAT TO...

MY NEW
WHAT?

BATMAN DITCHED
ME FOR CATWOMAN
ON THIS FILM FREAK
CASE-- BUT SINCE HE'S
NEVER BEEN HERE TO
YOUR PLACE, HE
DOESN'T KNOW
WHAT I KNOW...

AND
STAIRS HAYWORTH
YOU WERE
NEVER LOVELIER

YEAH?
AND WHAT'S
THAT?

YOU'RE
QUITE A
FILM FREAK
YOURSELF

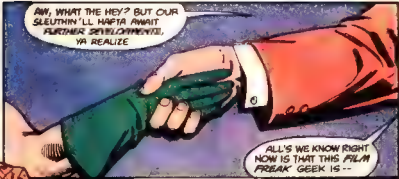
YOU AIN'T ACCUSIN' ME OF--

OF COURSE NOT-- YOU'RE TOO FAT, BUT WITH YOUR CINEMA EXPERIENCE, WE CAN TEAR UP AND CRACK THE CASE BEFORE BATMAN AND CATWOMAN REACH THE PORCORY STAND



I DUNNO, KID, THERE AIN'T MUCH TO GO ON, AND

AW, WHAT THE HEY? BUT OUR SLEUTHIN'LL HAFIA AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS, YA REALIZE



ALL'S WE KNOW RIGHT NOW IS THAT THIS FILM FREAK GEEK IS--

"...NUTTER 'N CRACKER JACKS..."

SO THEY'VE GIVEN ME A NAME--THE FILM FREAK-- BUT DO I LIKE IT?

MAKES ME SOUND LIKE SOME NERDY FAN, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, MY CHARACTER DOES NEED A NAME



THIS IS NO SPEAR-CARRIER WE'RE CREATING HERE--THIS IS A STAR



AND SINCE IT'S TOO LATE TO REWRITE THE SCRIPT AT THIS STAGE...SO BE IT!

NEXT SCENE THE TAUNTING NOTE TO THE POLICE...

ACTION!!



HE'S BALD IN THESE PICTURES, BUT I'D STILL RECOGNIZE HIM ANYWHERE.

I MEAN, BURT WESTON WAS MY, UH, STEADY FOR THREE YEARS... I KNOW IT'S HIM, EXCEPT FOR ONE THING



HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.



WHY DON'T YOU TELL US ABOUT HIM ANYWAY, MISS...?

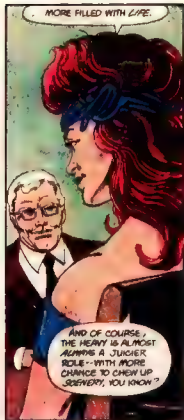
BLUE--INDIA BLUE--I CHANGED MY NAME WHEN I DECIDED TO BE AN ACTRESS.

AS FOR BURT... HIS WHOLE LIFE WAS ACTING, AND HE ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY HEROES...

QUIRKY VILLAINS CRAWLED WITH BAD-BUY OBSESSIONS, YOU KNOW?



LIKE MOST SERIOUS ACTORS--WHO ARE, LET'S FACE IT, ENORMOUS SADWOMENS--HE FELT VILLAINS WERE RICHER, MORE COMPLEX.



...MORE FILLED WITH LIFE.

AND OF COURSE, THE HEAVY IS ALMOST ALWAYS A JUICIER ROLE--WITH MORE CHANCE TO CHOW UP SCENERY, YOU KNOW?



THIS'LL MAKE A GOOD STORY, VICKI

WRONG, JULIA-- A GREAT STORY

ANYWAY, BURT ALWAYS SAID GOOD GUYS WERE WORTHY OF NOTHING BUT SCORN AND EVEN HATRED

THE HERO IN ANY DRAMA, STAGE OR SCREEN, WAS ALWAYS TOO BLAND AND FLAT FOR BURT, TOO PREDICTABLE



...TOO ONE-DIMENSIONAL, AND JUST PLAIN BORING.

PRESENT COMPANY EXCLUDED, I TRUST. BUT CAN YOU GIVE US THE NAMES OF OTHER FRIENDS OR ASSOCIATES?

WELL, I KNOW THE DIRECTOR PAUL VASSERIA IS IN TOWN--



--SUPPOSEDLY "POSED FOR A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH" WITH HIS NEW FILM, IF YOU CAN BELIEVE THE FABLES.

HE GAVE BURT A FEW SMALL ROLES WHEN THEY WERE BOTH STRUGGLING



ANYONE ELSE?

HIS BEST
FRIEND--NEXT
TO ME,
ANYWAY--
WAS AL
JACOBS,
ANOTHER
STARRING
ACTOR

LAST I
HEARD--



-- HE WAS WAITING TABLES AT A DINER.

YO, AL, YOU AIN'T
GONNA BELIEVE
WHO WANTS TO
SEE YA AT THE
BACK DOOR--

-- AND
NO, IT
AIN'T
STEVEN
SPIELBERG...



NOW-- THIS MAY BE MORE
AMAZING THAN SPIELBERG.

SO WHAT'S GOIN'?

AIN'T EVERY
DAY AN OUT-
OF-WORK
ACTOR GETS
A VISIT FROM
THE BIG BAT-
GUY AND HIS
CAT-LADY...

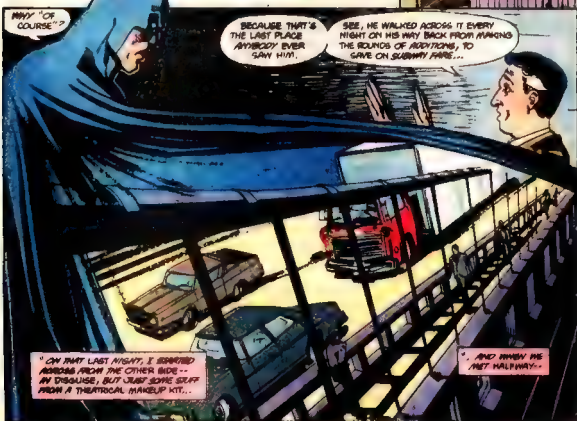
YOU SEE
YESTERDAY'S GAZETTE,
MR. JACOBS?



MORE, ALL I READ
IS THE MORNING EDITION,
BROADWAY NEWS,
HOLLYWOOD BEAT

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME
YOU SAW BRAT WARDEN?

WELL, UH... ON
THE GOTHAM BAY
BRIDGE, OF
COURSE



MAY "OF
COURSE"?

BECAUSE THAT'S
THE LAST PLACE
ANYBODY EVER
SAW HIM.

SEE, HE WALKED ACROSS IT EVERY
NIGHT ON HIS WAY BACK FROM MAKING
THE SOUNDS OF ADDITIONS, TO
SAVE ON SUBWAY FARE...

"ON THAT LAST NIGHT, I SPOTTED
HIM FROM THE OTHER SIDE--
IN DISGUISE, BUT JUST SOME STUFF
FROM A THEATRICAL MAKEUP KIT...

AND WHEN HE
MET HALFWAY--

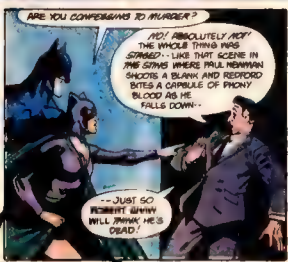


"-- I FIRED THE GUN POINT-BLANK--"

"-- IN FULL VIEW OF A DOZEN PEOPLE-- AND THE BLOOD JUST SOAKED HIS CHEST"



"THEN I DUMPED HIM OVER THE SIDE INTO THE BAY AND RAN LIKE HELL-- BUT NO ONE CHASED ME ANYWAY."



"ARE YOU CONFESSING TO MURDER?"

"NO! ABSOLUTELY NOT! THE WHOLE THING WAS STAGED-- LIKE THAT SCENE IN THE SIXTIES WHERE PAUL NEWMAN SHOOTS A BLANK AND REDFORD BITES A CAPSULE OF PHONY BLOOD AS HE FALLS DOWN--"

"-- JUST SO ROBERT WAIN WILL THINK HE'S DEAD!"



"THE WHOLE THING WAS EVEN BURT'S IDEA!"

"I WAS JUST DOING HIM A FAVOR, AND YOU THOUGHT I ACTUALLY--"

"WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF IT?"

"ALMOST NO ONE NOTICED-- EVEN YOU DON'T REMEMBER IT-- AND THE PEOPLE WHO WERE AWARE OF HIM, ALLS THEY DID WAS MOVE HIS PHONE NUMBER FROM THE ROLDEX TO THE WASTEBASKET"

"SO HE DISAPPEARED."

"NO RESURRECTION AFTER HIS 'DEATH'"

"WELL, IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE A PUBLICITY STUNT BECAUSE BURT'S CAREER WAS GOING NOWHERE, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK."



"NO CERTAIN CALL TO SAY, 'TA DA, I SURVIVED-- BIGGER AND BETTER AND AT LIBERTY TO CONSIDER SCRIPTS.'"

"DISAPPEARED WHERE?"

"I DON'T KNOW."



I FIGURED HE WAS GO CRUSHED BY THE FLOP OF HIS BIG SCENE THAT HE SIMPLY PACKED IT IN TO GO PLUMP GAS IN JMW OR SOMEWHERE

BUT YOU DIDN'T FIGURE YOUR "STARS" MAY HAVE BACKFIRED?

A FALL FROM THAT HEIGHT, EVEN INTO WATER--



NO WAY! I REALLY KILLED HIM-- DON'T EVEN SAY IT! HE WAS CAPTAIN OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL SWIM TEAM-- AND AFTER THAT, HE WAS A STUNTMAN IN HOLLYWOOD!

BESIDES, HE SENT A POSTCARD FROM CALIFORNIA ABOUT SIX MONTHS LATER!

WHAT DID IT SAY?



JUST THREE SWEET WORDS: "THANKS FROM NELL." AND IT WAS SIGNED BURT.

NOW YOU TELL ME SOMETHING...

WHY ALL THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT BURT WESTON?



BECAUSE HIS LONG-DELAYED RESURRECTION, MR. JACOBS--

-- HAS FINALLY BEEN STAGED



REBORN AND: THE FILE ROOM:

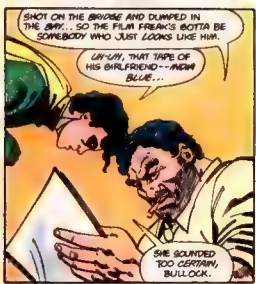
SOME HEADLINE

PICTURE NEWS

"FILM FREAK A GHOST..."

... AND SINCE JULIA'S AHEAD OF US, BULLOCK, THEN BATMAN AND CATWOMAN PROBABLY ARE TOO.

HERE IT IS, KID-- BURT WESTON-- AND HE'S DECEASED ALL RIGHT.



SHOT ON THE BRIDGE AND DUMPED IN THE BAY... SO THE FILM FREAK'S GOTTA BE SOMEBODY WHO JUST LOOKS LIKE HIM.

UH-UH, THAT TAPE OF HIS GIRLFRIEND--NINA BLUE...

SHE SOUNDED TOO CERTAIN, BULLOCK.

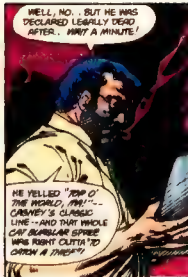
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SO YOU'RE SAYING WE GOT US
A SCUMMER HERE?

WHAT I'M
SAYING, YA BIG
CAF, IS...

WAS
HIS
BODY
EVER
RECOVERED?



WELL, NO... BUT HE WAS
DECLARED LEGALLY DEAD
AFTER... WAIT A MINUTE!

HE YELLED "TOP O'
THE WORLD, MA!"--
CASNEY'S CLASSIC
LINE--AND THAT WHOLE
CAT BLAMBLAR SPREE
WAS RIGHT CUTTA'D
GIVEN A THREFF!



NO
FOOLIN'.

WHY'D YOU THINK
I CAME TO A MOVIE MET
LIKE YOU? 'CAUSE
YOU SMELL GOOD?



"THE STONE!"

A PRONY
DEATH? IT IS
HIM--BURT
WESTON!

BINGO! A FAILED
ACEK, AND HIS
NEXT CRIME WILL
ALSO RELATE TO
MOVIES.



SO, MR. MOVIE EXPERT, HURRY UP
AND CRACK THE CLUE IN THIS NOTE
WE SWIPED FROM GORDON'S
DESK, HUM?

YEAH... LEAGUE...
IT SAYS: "THE GOLF
THAT DRINKS ARE AWE
OF IS OFTEN FALSE,
BUT SOMETIMES..."



THE SAME WRITER-- JULIA
PENNYMORTH--BUT NOW SHE'S
IN PICTURE NEWS...

AND NOW SHE'S GIVEN
ME A SECOND NAME--
MY REAL ONE, CALLING
BURT WESTON A "BADGE"

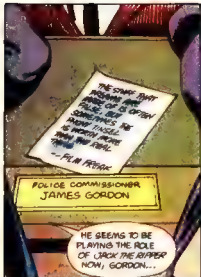


I DON'T KNOW
WHO TOLD HER--
NOT YET-- BUT
THEY'RE GOING
TO TRY.

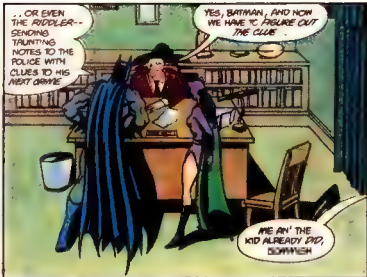
STILL, BEFORE
WE GET TO THOSE
SCENES... FIRST A
NOTE TO DEAR
JULIA...

... AND A SWEETER
ONE THAN I SENT TO GORDON,
WHOM I'LL BE DEALING
WITH REWRYAT.

PICTURE NEWS



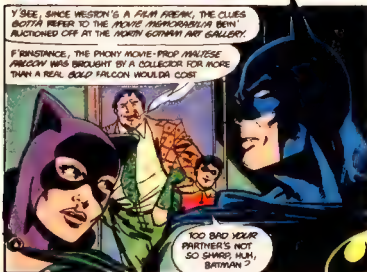
HE SEEMS TO BE
PLAYING THE ROLE
OF JACK THE RIPPER
NOW, GORDON...



...OR EVEN
THE RIDDLER--
SENDING
TAUNTING
NOTES TO THE
POLICE WITH
CLUES TO HIS
NEXT CRIME

YES, BATMAN, AND NOW
WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT
THE CLUE

WE AN' THE
KID ALREADY DID,
BOMMERSH



Y'SEE, SINCE WESTON'S A FLIM FREAK, THE CLUES
GOTTA REFER TO THE MOVIE 'MAGNOLIA BEIN'
AUCTIONED OFF AT THE NORTH GOTHAM ART GALLERY.

F'INSTANCE, THE PHONY MOVIE-PROP 'MALESE
FALCON' WAS BROUGHT BY A COLLECTOR FOR MORE
THAN A REAL GOLD FALCON WOULD COST

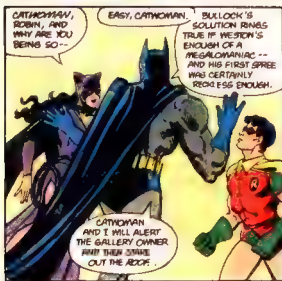
TOO BAD YOUR
PARTNER'S NOT
SO SHARP, HUH,
BATMAN?



IT FITS... BUT WOULD HE BE RECKLESS
ENOUGH TO TIP US OFF WITH SUCH AN
OBVIOUS CLUE?

OBVIOUS,
HUH?

YOU DIDN'T
FIGURE IT OUT,
CAT-LADY!



CATWOMAN,
ROBIN, AND
WHY ARE YOU
BEING SO--

EASY, CATWOMAN.

BULLOCK'S
SOLUTION RINGS
TRUE IF WESTON'S
ENOUGH OF A
MEGALOMANIAC --
AND HIS FIRST SPREE
WAS CERTAINLY
RECKLESS ENOUGH.

CATWOMAN
AND I WILL ALERT
THE GALLERY OWNER
FIRST THEN STRIKE
OUT THE RECK.

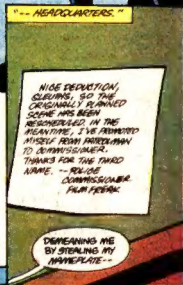


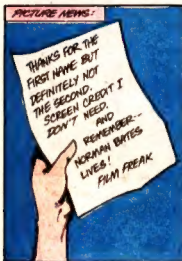
ARE YOU COMING, ROBIN?

MORE.

BULLOCK AND I
ARE REALLY STARTING
TO MESH.

VERY WELL...
SUIT YOURSELF.





CONTINUED ON A NEXT PAGE FOLLOWING

VICKI, YOU KNOW I GIVE YOU THE DREAM, BUT WITH THE LEAD-TIME OF A WEEKLY MAGAZINE LIKE PICTURE WEEK, HOW CAN I RESIST FEEDING THE SHORT VERSION TO A DAILY LIKE THE GAZETTE?

I'M JUST FEELING WITCHY, DEAR-- AFTER LOSING BRUCE MARINE TO YOU...

EXPENSIVE
VOUCHER
FOR
A
TRIP
TO
PARIS

... I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU TO THE GAZETTE.

THERE SHE IS, FILM FANS--

BRUCE IS HARDLY "MINE"-- HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN WEEKS.

CALL YOU FROM MY MOTEL-- AND TRY TO GET A LINE ON "NORMAN BATES," HM?

I'LL ASK FRANK IN ENTERTAINMENT-- AND BE CAREFUL, KIDDO.

MAYBE HIS MOTHER'S A WHACKO TOO.

--AND HER HASTE TELLS US SHE IS ABOUT TO ACT ON MY LITTLE LOVE LETTER IN SOME AS YET UNKNOWN FASHION...

SO THIS NEXT SCENE IS YOUR BASIC JENNIFER STEWART-TALKING-KIM-NOWAK IN "BATES"

ENTERTAINMENT DEPT.

YOU'RE KIDDING, VICKI-- YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW WHO NORMAN BATES WAS?

HITCHCOCK, MY DEAR-- "FRIEND."

WHAAT?!

JENNY! GET A LIST OF ALL THE MOTELS IN THE CASPAR AREA-- AND CALL MY CARDPHONE WHEN YOU'VE GOT IT!

WHAT'D I SAY?

IT WAS JUST A MOVIE, VICKI!



NO RAIN-- AND I'LL HAVE TO
CHEW OUT HARDWARE FOR
THE LACK OF A GRANNY
DRESS...

...BUT OTHERWISE
THE SCENARIO IS
SHAPING UP
PERFECTLY.



PLEASE, JULIA-- HAVE A
FLAT TIRE OR GET ARRESTED
FOR SPEEDING OR EVEN GET
IN AN ACCIDENT...

...BUT WHATEVER
YOU DO, DON'T
STAY IN A MOTEL!



FSH SHSH



AND IF YOU
DO STAY IN
A MOTEL...

...DON'T
YOU DARE
TAKE A
SHOWER!



IT NEVER
FAILS...

NO MATTER
HOW MANY SHOWERS
I TAKE OR WHERE
I TAKE THEM, I'M
ALWAYS
REMINDED OF--



OH, MY
GOD.

NORMAN
BATES...

"PSYCHO!"

SCREE-SCREE-SCREE-
SCREE...

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF DETECTIVE COMICS #562:

FEELING